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Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance

The situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

Identical letters dated 23 January 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Afghanistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to forward herewith the text of a letter dated 23 January 2001 from A. Abdullah, Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Islamic State of Afghanistan, addressed to you (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Dr. Ravan **Farhâdi**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the identical letters dated 23 January 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Afghanistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Following the convening of the meeting in Akora Khattak, Pakistan, on 10 January 2001 of the Pakistan-based extremist groups, advocating maximized military support of Pakistan to the Taliban-Osama coalition, and defying the United Nations sanctions against the militia, the Pakistan military junta has brought in new military force in northern Afghanistan.

Reports gathered recently by the security services of the Islamic State of Afghanistan indicate that since 12 January 2001, a number of new commando and artillery units of the Pakistan Army have been deployed in northern Afghanistan, in preparation for foreseeable attacks on the government forces.

According to the reports, in a sweeping move, preceding the deadline of the imposition of the new United Nations sanctions against the Taliban mercenaries, Pakistan army officers and units have recently been posted to Afghanistan as follows:

1. General Qamar-u-Zaman of the Pakistan Army has been assigned as the new officer in charge of military operations in Afghanistan, replacing Pakistan's General of the Army Saeed Zafar, who functioned in the same capacity in Afghanistan over the past year;

2. General Tariq Bashir, formerly commander of the Ninth Commando Division of the Pakistan Army;

3. Brigadier Momin of the Kohat Division of the Pakistan Army;

4. Colonel Sanaullah of the Kohat Division of the Pakistan Army;

5. Colonel Hamza of Pakistan's military intelligence services (ISI);

6. The 998 Brigade has been replaced by the 996 Brigade of Charat Commando Divisions, under Brigadier Amjad of Sayawali, Pakistan;

7. The 117 Brigade has been replaced by the 994 Brigade, under Faizan Khan of Laki Maroot, Pakistan;

8. The 625 Artillery Battalion has been newly deployed in the northern Kunduz province, under ranking officer Rafique of the Pakistan Army;

9. Brigadier Amjad has been assigned as the commanding officer of Pakistan attacking forces in the northern Takhar province. The Pakistan Army units operating under Brigadier Amjad are reported to have been especially equipped with infrastructure capability to cross the Kokcha River, where the government forces are entrenched;

10. The 998 Brigade has been withdrawn from the fronts, and designated as the Reserve Corps, to take over the ongoing routine military training in preparation for future deployments across Afghanistan;

11. The total additional number of armed Pakistan nationals, recently dispatched to northern Afghanistan, is estimated at about 1,500.

According to the reports, Pakistan forces have joined scores of heavily armed militants from the Osama bin Laden Al-Qaeda terrorist network and a sizeable number of Taliban mercenaries, already poised to attack territories across the Kokcha River on the border of Badakhshan province in the north-east. An attack by the Pakistan-Taliban-Osama forces on 12 January, targeting Khoja-Ghar, Dasht-e-Qala and Ay Khanum along the same area was beaten back fiercely by the government troops, with as many as 200 Taliban dead and heavy material losses.

The convening of the Akora Khattak meeting in broad daylight by as many as 30 militant groups, protected by hundreds of heavily armed guards of their own, while martial law imposed by the military Government of Pakistan remains in effect throughout the country, among other things, serves as ample proof that the gathering was orchestrated by the Government of Pakistan aimed at intensifying and prolonging the war in Afghanistan and yet misleading the international community. The gathering, attended by top-ranking officers of the Pakistan ISI, such as General (retired) Hamid Gul, former Chief of military intelligence services and General Aslam Beg of the Pakistan Army, starkly unravels Pakistan's un-Islamic exploitation of religion for its unholy military and political hegemonic purposes, while bringing to light the treacherous and bogus preaching of the Pakistan political and military establishment concerning the "negative impacts of the United Nations sanctions on the civilian population of Afghanistan".

The current surge in Pakistan military involvement in Afghanistan clearly manifests Pakistan's belligerence against the Security Council resolution, that, inter alia, calls for an embargo on provision of arms and military aid to the Taliban, immediate withdrawal of foreign military personnel from Afghanistan and closure of all terrorist training camps inside Afghanistan.

(*Signed*) Dr. A. **Abdullah**
Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs of the
Islamic State of Afghanistan